

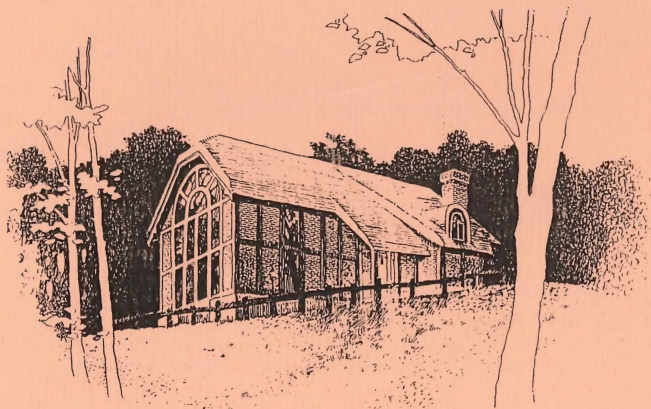
*An Evening
in the Country
with the*

"O r f o r d

S t r i n g

Q u a r t e t "

*at the Great Hall
of Windrush
February 22, 1991*



W

*elcome to An Evening in the Country
with the Orford String Quartet.*

*We are truly privileged to have with us the
world renowned Orford in one of their last
private concerts, after twenty-five years as
Canada's finest string quartet and*

*"one of the best string quartets which one
can hear today." Le Soir (Brussels)*

*Their presence tonight, supporting The Esprit
Orchestra, gives us encouragement and drive
to carry on.*

*We thank each one of you for coming this
evening. The Esprit is Canada's only full-
sized, professional orchestra that is dedicated
to developing today's Mozarts and a culturally
aware audience, through its high standards of
performance and innovative education.*

*It is critical that we continue to give this
national treasure the support that it needs
and deserves.*

Enjoy a memorable evening.

Sincerely,

The Committee:

Marilyn Field, J.C. Pennie, Sarah Haney

"P r o g r a m m e o f t h e E v e n i n g"

6:30 pm Gathering at the Great Hall of "Windrush"
Hosts: John & Ellen Pennie

7:30 pm Smorgasbörd Supper

8:30 pm **The Concert by the Orford String Quartet**

| | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| Andrew Dawes | <i>Violin</i> |
| Kenneth Perkins | <i>Violin</i> |
| Sophie Renshaw | <i>Viola</i> |
| Desmond Hoebig | <i>Cello</i> |

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
String Quartet In D, K.575

1. Allegretto
2. Andante
3. Menuetto e trio
4. Allegretto

Small Is beautiful

a selection of Orford favourites

9:45 pm Desserts and Coffee

10:30 pm Coach leaves "Windrush" for Roy Thomson Hall



the spirit of alex park music director & conductor orchestra

THE ORFORD STRING QUARTET

'An absolutely first rate group' (New York Times)

The Orford String Quartet was founded at Quebec's Orford Arts Centre in 1965. Celebrating it's 25th year in 1990, it's unique sonority continues to win the hearts of the public and press on five continents.

The Orford String Quartet has won numerous awards of distinction including: first prize in the European Broadcasting Union's International String Quartet Competition; two Grand Prix du Disque-Canada (for recordings of works by John Beckwith with R. Murray Schafer (1981) and of their Beethoven Cycle for CBC Enterprises (1983); two Juno Awards (for Mozart Quartets (1985) and the Schubert two-cello Quintet (1987). In 1986, the Quartet was named Ensemble of the Year by the Canadian Music Council.

The Orford String Quartet's repertoire presents over 160 works embracing the classics and contemporary music. It has actively commissioned and premiered new works by leading composers, many Canadian.

The Orford's large discography- more than 50 recordings- has recently been enhanced by it's new Beethoven Cycle on the Delos label, the first time the Cycle has been digitally recorded exclusively for compact disc and digital audio tape. This their last season sees the release of several exciting CDs: Mozart Piano Quartets; the five quartets of the pre-eminent Canadian composer, R. Murray Schafer; and Canadian works for string quartet and harp.

The ensemble is the University of Toronto's Quartet in Residence where each member is an Associate Professor of Music.

In 1987, with a grant from Trans-Canada Pipelines and with assistance from the Canada Council, the Quartet initiated a unique National Residency Training Program for aspiring professional musicians across Canada.

'How can one not be seduced right from the start by the Orford Quartet? Dazzling, masterful Canadians!' (Journal de Geneve)

THE MUSICIANS

Andrew Dawes, first violinist and founding member of the Quartet, began his violin studies in Calgary. Later, he attended the Conservatoire de Musique in Geneva where he received the highest marks ever awarded. A student of Clayton Hare, Murray Adaskin, Lorand Fenyves and Oscar Shumsky, Mr. Dawes has been a prize winner in many international violin competitions. He has performed as soloist with all the major orchestras in Canada, including the Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver Symphonies, and has given recitals in Canada, the United States and Europe. Mr. Dawes' violin is a J.B. Guadagnini, made in 1770.

Kenneth Perkins, second violinist, also a founding member of the Quartet, began violin lessons at the age of seven and undertook his first concert tour at the age of fifteen. His early studies were under the direction of Ivan Galamian in New York and Lorand Fenyves in Geneva. Mr. Perkins has taught at McGill University and now, along with his colleagues in the Quartet, he is an Associate Professor of Music at the University of Toronto. He has appeared as concertmaster or soloist with many symphony orchestras throughout Europe and North America. His violin is a Matteo Goffriller, circa 1726.

Sophie Renshaw, violist, began her music studies at the age of six. She attended the Yehudi Menuhin School in England where she studied the violin and viola with Margaret Norris and chamber music with Peter Norris and Hans Keller. She has performed at major centres throughout Europe, including the Gstaad Festival, Switzerland, and participated in a tour of China and India with the Yehudi Menuhin School Chamber Orchestra, performing in Shanghai, Beijing and Bombay. In 1984, Ms. Renshaw won a scholarship to study with Donald McInnes at the University of Michigan and then at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, where she earned her Bachelor of Music degree in 1987. Her viola is a Carlo Giuseppe Testore, Milan, 1704.

Desmond Hoebig, cellist, is a former member of the National Arts Centre Orchestra in Ottawa, the Montreal Symphony and the Cincinnati Orchestra. Mr. Hoebig's national and international reputations are well established, in part through being the Grand Prize Winner in the CBC National Talent Competition in 1981 and then a finalist in the Tchaikovsky International Competition. He has performed regularly at many festivals and as a guest artist with international orchestras. Mr. Hoebig has performed with the Hoebig-Moroz Trio for several years, winning the CBC Radio Talent Competition in 1983. He and pianist, Andrew Tunis, won first prize in the Munich International Competition in 1984. Recently, they released two recordings featuring the music of Beethoven (CBC) and Chopin (RCI).

THE ESPRIT ORCHESTRA

Esprit's dedication to perfection is an uncommon accomplishment in the world of new orchestral music.

The Esprit Orchestra is an incorporated not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving society through the commissioning and quality performance of orchestral music that reflects today's world, and to promote the appreciation of this music by audiences and musicians alike.

The Esprit Orchestra was developed in direct response to the paucity of contemporary repertoire performed by orchestras in Canada and abroad. Esprit not only gives contemporary works their premiere performances, but also reprogrammes the works to ensure that they are not readily forgotten.

Esprit's programming, which includes newly commissioned Canadian as well as international works, is designed to guide audiences through both familiar and more challenging musical terrain in a comprehensible and enjoyable way. Productions often involve the use of theatrical elements. The Esprit Orchestra was founded in 1983 by Alex Pauk, Esprit's acclaimed Music Director and Conductor, with the generous assistance of Suncor Inc. and The Canada Council. Since then, Esprit's season has grown to a four-concert series format. Esprit has performed most notably in Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, Vancouver and Calgary (1988 Olympic Arts Festival).

EDUCATION PROGRAMME AND AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT

During its 1988/89 season, The Esprit Orchestra expanded its activities to include an exciting new education programme; visits to schools by Esprit's composers and performers, student attendance at rehearsals and concerts, and follow-up sessions in which students and musicians review their shared experiences.

Prior to each concert, Esprit presents informal Coffee Chats which give interested audience members the opportunity to meet composers, musicians, and our Conductor in a musically informative social context.

A SUCCESS STORY

The Orchestra continues to increase its profile through film (award-winning Rhombus Media Inc.) and television appearances (Gzowski and Company (CBC) and W5 (CTV)). Currently, the Esprit is awaiting the commercial release of its first digital recording (CBC Records SM5000), co-sponsored by CBC and Suncor.

Esprit performances are recorded for national broadcast by CBC Radio and are often rebroadcasted internationally. The March 25th concert and C.D. launch, at The St. Lawrence Centre, Toronto, will be broadcast live on CBC's 'Arts National.'

For more information, please contact The Esprit Office @ 416-599-7880.

A c k n o w l e d g e m e n t s

The Esprit Orchestra gratefully acknowledges the following organizations and individuals for their services, gifts and generosity which have made this evening possible:

The Orford String Quartet

Cultural Support Services

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Michel Reichart Agencies Inc.

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